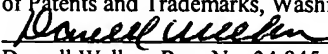


<p align="center"><u>"EXPRESS MAIL" MAILING LABEL</u></p> <p>NUMBER:ER 771567898 US</p> <p>Date of Deposit <u>December 12, 2003</u></p> <p>I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D. C. 20231.</p> <p> Darcell Walker, Reg. No. 34,945</p>
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the Application of:	§	
Yellepeddy et al.	§	Docket: AUS920010442US2
	§	
Serial No.: 09/931,305	§	Group Art Unit: 2125
	§	
Filed: August 16, 2001	§	Examiner: Alexander Kosowski
	§	
For: A METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR	§	
OPTIMIZING ENERGY	§	
CONSUMPTION AND COST	§	

Honorable Commissioner
 Patents and Trademarks
 Washington, D.C.

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

This preliminary amendment is for the above-identified patent application No. 09/931,305. Please amend the application as follows:

Please insert the following:

Cross-Reference to Related Application

This application is a divisional application of and claims priority from patent application number 09/931,305, filed on August 16, 2001, the contents of which are incorporated herein by reference.